

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MIDDLEWICH

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR 1965.



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MIDDLEWICH

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1965

Chairman of the Council: Councillor J.D. Blease J.P.

HEALTH AND SEWERAGE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: Councillor G.F.T. Stallard up to 11th. October, 1965.
Councillor J.E. Garner from 11th. October, 1965.

COUNCILLORS

Councillor F. Buckley	Councillor W. Faulkner
Councillor T.C. Costello	Councillor N.M. Gill
Councillor H. Dale	Councillor J. Hamlett
Councillor F. Dodd	Councillor W. Healey

and the above Chairmen.

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health

F. Seymour, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Other Appointments: The Medical Officer of Health is
also Medical Officer of Health for Northwich Rural
District Council, Northwich Urban District Council
and Winsford Urban District Council

and Divisional Medical Officer to the
Mid-Cheshire Division

Public Health Inspector

F. Costello

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MIDDLEWICH

Telephone No. :
Northwich 4251

Hartford Hill,
David Street,
NORTHWICH,
Cheshire.

June, 1966.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Middlewich Urban District Council.

Dear Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the environmental health and sanitary circumstances of the Council's district for the year 1965.

For the information of Members I enclose my Annual Report to the Divisional Health Committee.


I would once again like to express my appreciation to Mr. Costello and the Council's Chief Officers for their co-operation and help during the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'H. J. ...', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Medical Officer of Health.



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SECTION I

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

(1) GENERAL STATISTICS

Population (estimated mid-year 1964)	7,730
Area (acres of District)	1,971
Number of inhabited dwellings	2,603
Rateable Value of area	£268,212
Estimated Product of Penny Rate 1965/66	1,036

Comparative Statistics - 1964/65

	Year	
	1965	1964
Population (Estimated)	7,730	7,480
Rateable Value	£268,212	£267,430
Product of Penny Rate (Estimated)	£1,036	£1,076
Number of inhabited dwellings	2,603	2,517

(2) VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	90	75	165
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
	91	79	170

Crude Birth Rate per 1000 population 22.0
 +Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1000 population 23.1
 (Comparability Factor 1.05)

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total births 2.9

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	1	1	2

<u>Infant Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
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Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	1	2	3
--	---	---	---

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	-	1	1
---	---	---	---

Deaths of infants under 1 week of age	-	1	1
--	---	---	---

Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 total live births ... 17.6

+see Page 2.

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil	
<u>Deaths</u>				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
All causes	...	...	...	42	41	83
Death Rate per 1000 population	...	...	...	-	-	10.7
+Corrected Death per 1000 population (Comparability Factor 1.19	...	...	...			12.8

+NOTE: The corrected birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales, and the corresponding adjusted rates for any other area.

Causes of Death

As will be seen from the following table the two principal causes of death were diseases of the heart and circulation which caused approximately 53% of the deaths, and cancer which caused approximately 18%

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	4
2. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-	2
3. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
4. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
5. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	-	5	5
6. Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	6	12
7. Coronary disease, angina	13	5	18
8. Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	3
9. Other heart disease	2	5	7
10. Other circulatory disease	2	2	4
11. Pneumonia	3	-	3
12. Bronchitis	2	1	3
13. Congenital malformations	-	1	1
14. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	8	14
15. Motor vehicle accidents	2	-	2
16. Suicide	-	1	1
	42	41	83

SECTION II

HEALTH SERVICES.

(1) Information concerning the statutory and voluntary Health and Welfare Services in the area are given in the enclosed report of the Divisional Medical Officer. Further details may be obtained from the Divisional Medical Office, David Street, Northwich. Telephone number - Northwich 4251.

(2) HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The Middlewich Urban District lies within the area of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board whose offices are at Cheetwood Road, Manchester, 8. Telephone number - Deansgate 7271.

(3) LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens and samples taken by the Health Department are submitted for examination to the Chester Public Health Laboratory.

(4) AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance service is provided by the County Council and is under radio control from central control at County Hall, Chester. All 999 calls made by members of the public are immediately connected to this central control. The arrangement for non-urgent calls is that the patient or general practitioner should ring the Northwich Depot - Telephone number : Northwich 3355.

S E C T I O N I I I

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 - 1951

Section 47

Under this Section when persons (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the local authority may apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an Order to remove the person to a suitable place.

With regard to the expeditious procedure as laid down in the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, the Medical Officer of Health or any duly qualified person acting for the Medical Officer of Health is authorised by the Council to make the requisite application to a Justice of the Peace.

Section 50

Under this Section the District Council has the duty to arrange for the burial of any person who has died in their area, if no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body are being made.

It was not necessary to take any action under either of these Sections during the year.

S E C T I O N I V

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

(1) NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following are the infectious diseases notified for the years 1964 and 1965:

DISEASE	Cases Notified	
	1965	1964
Measles	4	21
Whooping Cough	-	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-
Pneumonia	-	1

SECTION V

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

(1) WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is provided by the Mid & South East Cheshire Water Board whose offices are at Weaverham Grange, Hartford, near Northwich.

The water supplied to the district was satisfactory in quantity and does not have a plumbo-solvent action. During the year 12 samples were taken by the Water Board and 15 by our own Health Department. All were bacteriologically satisfactory.

The water main in Croxton Lane and various other small lengths were renewed by the Water Board following complaints of rust and sediment in the water supply. These new mains appeared to remedy the trouble.

There are no dwellinghouses in the district supplied by means of stand-pipes.

(2) SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Information relating to the provision of new Sewage Works and the necessary sewers was completed and awaiting approval from the Ministry. The approval and implementation of these plans is a matter of urgency.

The Surveyor expresses grave concern over the sewer in Sutton Lane the surcharging of which increases. The position regarding storm water disposal in the Cledford area is also critical and relief provision is urgently required.

(3) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There are still 6 pail closets in the district and since they are considerable distances from the sewers they cannot be converted to a water carriage system until the new sewerage scheme is carried out.

(4) PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Public conveniences are situated in Leadsmithy Street, and at the rear of Victoria Building.

(5) REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

In August the Council received delivery of a new Karrier dual tip refuse collection vehicle complete with a compression plate and the old Karrier was re-conditioned. Further men were engaged and for the last four months of the year a weekly collection of refuse was maintained. The Council collects free of charge all surplus and obsolete items of household furniture.

Income from the sale of salvage amounted to £1,005 - 11 - 4d. of which 10% was shared amongst the workmen. 143 dustbins with rubber lids were sold during the year.

Refuse is tipped at the Croxton site and plenty of soil was available for cover.

STREET CLEANSING

The Surveyor reports that the Johnston Suction Sweeper continues to give good service, the sweeping of all streets being on a rota system.

(6) PETROLEUM STORAGE

Twenty-three licences were issued for the bulk storage of petroleum. All installations were inspected during the year.

H O U S I N G

Provision of New Houses

84 private dwellings were completed during the year. Consideration of a suggested flatlet scheme for the elderly has continued and the construction of a number of bungalows was being considered for a site in New King Street.

A contract was let for the erection of 8 two bedroomed houses on a site from which 5 temporary pre-fabs had been demolished. The second stage, the clearance of the 15 remaining pre-fabs is to take place in 1966 and the cleared site will then be developed.

Housing in General

There is no known overcrowding in the district, four cases being transferred to other accommodation during the year. The average number of persons per dwelling is 2.966, this figure having shown a steady reduction during the past 6 years.

During the year the Council made loans on 64 dwellings under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, and 15 Standard and 4 Discretionary grants were made .

Slum Clearance

Since 1948 a total of 158 dwellings have been condemned and demolished, while 39 other houses, mainly sub-standard have been demolished after informal action, or converted to other approved usage. A number of tenants from the 12 sub-standard houses which were acquired in Brooks Lane for road widening, were re-housed, leaving only 4 occupied. There are also, 2 houses occupied in Wych-House Lane out of a block of 4 on which voluntary undertakings to demolish were accepted. A scheme was also being prepared for the acquisition of a number of sub-standard dwellings on the South side of Kinderton Street for road widening.

Houses demolished during 1965

Nos. 1 and 3 Manor Lane and Nos. 19 and 21 Kinderton Street.
5 Temporary Pre-fabs.

House Letting

The 'Points' scheme continued to operate in the selection of tenants for Council houses, and worked reasonably satisfactorily. The system of transfers of tenants to larger or smaller houses according to their needs was again extensively used to great advantage.

At the end of the year there was a "waiting list" of 86 local persons of whom only 28 were from families sharing houses, the remainder being tenants.

Housing Notices complied with:-

Repairs to defective drains	...	...	9
Repairs to defective closets	...	...	8
To remedy dampness in houses	...	...	3
Repairs to roofs	...	...	2
Repairs to defective windows	...	...	3
Renewal of dustbins	...	...	143

Caravan Sites

There are no caravan sites in the district.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

There are no Pet Shops Licensed in the district.

Cinemas

The only Cinema in the district closed at the end of the year.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964

One dealer is registered under this Act.

Destruction of Rats and Mice

All Business Premises, Farms and most dwellings were inspected at least once and treatments given as required. Treatments at Business Premises are charged for, but private dwellings are treated free of cost.

A test baiting of 10% of all sewer manholes was made in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture and in no case was there any "take".

A number of treatments for moles were given at various farms and private dwellings, these being charged for.

Smoke Abatement

The Alkali Inspectorate have, since 1958, been responsible for control over smoke and grit emissions from furnaces used in the production of salt by the "open pan method". Many of these pans have now ceased to be used and no complaints were received during the year.

Investigations continued to be made by a firm producing large quantities of sawdust, into the problem of using it as a fuel without excessive smoke emission. Various adaptations were made and after reports from consultant organisations it was thought this problem would be solved during 1966.

SECTION VI

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises	No. on Register	No. of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
(i) Factories in which Sections 1.2.3.4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced the local Authority.	52	12	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	6	3	-	-
Total	58	15	1	-

2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

OUTWORKERS

There are no outworkers registered with the authority.

Industry

The Cerebos Company was engaged in an extensive enlargement programme to their building, and plans were approved for improvements to Welfare accommodation and the Sewage Disposal system.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

The Act applies to 68 premises in the District, all of which have been registered. 28 visits were made in connection with this Act but pressure of other work prevented the completion of inspections.

S E C T I O N V I I

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK

15 dealers are registered in the district under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

The following table shows the results of tests on samples of milk taken by the County Council.

TABLE 1.

Type of Test	Taken by C.C.	
	Satis.	Unsatis.
1. Methylene Blue	44	3
2. Phosphatase	47	1
3. Turbidity	3	-

1. Measures the keeping quality of the milk.
2. Measures the efficiency of the Pasteurisation process.
3. Measures the efficiency of the Sterilising process.

(b) ICE-CREAM

No ice-cream is manufactured in the district and the only ice-cream sold is pre-wrapped. 7 samples were taken in the district and were submitted to the Chester Public Health Laboratory. These were placed in the Provisional Grades as follows:

Provisional Grade 1	...	5
Provisional Grade 2	...	1
Provisional Grade 3	...	1

(c) MEAT

The only slaughterhouse in the district is at Newton Hall. These premises are well maintained in accordance with the Construction and Hygiene Regulations. Veterinary Inspectors from the Ministry of Agriculture made a number of visits and were satisfied with conditions there. Under the Meat Regulations all meat passed for human consumption must carry the Council's stamp.

149 visits of inspection were made in the year and Inspectors of Northwich Rural District Council deputed during the holidays of the Middlewich Public Health Inspector. This co-operation and help is greatly appreciated.

Inspection charges for the year amounted to £88 - 5 - 3d.

No horses are slaughtered in the district.

Tables of Carcases and Offal

Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	16	116	724	73	1,141
Number inspected	16	116	724	73	1,141
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCI</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	1	4	12	-	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	32	9	2	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	18.75%	31.03%	2.9%	2.74%	1.05%
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	1	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with cysticerci	-	.86%	-	-	-

Condemnation notes were issued in respect of:-

15 tins of meat
 5 tins of Salmon
 41 tins of tomatoes
 32 tins of fruit
 11 tins of vegetables
 5 tins of milk
 7 lbs. of bacon.

A complaint of a grub in strained pears was referred to the County Weights and Measures Department, who after investigation issued a warning. Similar action was taken with regard to a dirty milk bottle. A caution was also issued in respect of a quantity of cheese containing weevils.

Disposal of Unsound Food

Condemned meat at the Slaughterhouse is stained green and then sold for animal feeding stuffs via an approved agent. Condemned foods at shops are collected and buried at the refuse tip.

Food Premises

The undermentioned food premises are in use in the Middlewich district.

Schedule of premises subject to Regs. 16 & 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Complying with Reg. 16.</u>	<u>Reg. 19 applies</u>	<u>Complying with Reg. 19.</u>
Butchers Shops	7	7	7	7
Bakehouses	4	4	4	4
Schools	4	4	4	4
Fish and Chip Shops	5	5	5	5
Grocery Shops	31	31	31	31
Fresh Fish Shops	2	2	2	2
Chocolates and Sweets	6	6	-	-
Public Houses	15	15	-	-
Clubs and Licensed Bars	4	4	-	-
Greengrocers	4	4	-	-
Chemist Shops	2	2	-	-
Slaughterhouses	1	(Complies with Slaughterhouse Hygiene Regulations)		

These descriptions only indicate the main type of food sold in each shop.

Registered Under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

For retail sale of wrapped ice-cream	...	25
For retail sale of sausages, meat pies, etc.	...	15
Dairies registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1959-60	... ..	2
Registered Milk Dealers	... ..	15

All bakehouses and food premises are regularly inspected and are well maintained.

MEAT SAMPLES

11 samples of various meat products were taken and sent for bacteriological examination. Two were not up to the standard which could reasonably be expected.

There are no formal standards laid down for these particular types of food, but where the results indicate that standards of manufacture, handling and storage can be improved, the necessary investigations are instituted and recommendations made to these responsible.

OTHER FOODS

The County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors took samples of 34 varied articles of food in the Middlewich Urban District during 1964. The following 1 sample was not up to standard:-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Milk	Contained dark stains adhering to glass. Milk contained traces of similar dark material.	Verbal caution to Milk Bottlers.

F. SEYMOUR.

Medical Officer of Health.

F. COSTELLO.

Public Health Inspector.

